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BOROUGH OF LEOMINSTER
HEREFORDSHIRE



JOINT
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and of the
Public Health Inspector
for the Year
1956



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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December, 1956)

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor D. R. JONES, J.P.)

THE DEPUTY MAYOR (Alderman F. H. DALE, J.P.)

Aldermen :

N. DAVIS (Chairman of the Industrial Development
Committee)

A. E. P. HAMMOND

H. B. THOMAS (Chairman of the Streets and Works
Committee)

Councillors :

A. T. BISHOP

S. R. BOOTH, J.P.

R. B. BURKE

C. P. GOODWIN

J. HAMER

C. W. HARRIS (Chairman of the Housing and Public
Health Committee)

S. T. LAYTON (Chairman of the Finance Committee)

W. E. PARKER

Mrs. P. P. PEATT

F. W. WOODWARD (Chairman of the Baths and Pleasure
Grounds Committee)

Town Clerk and Chief Financial Officer . . . K. DOWNS

Surveyor H. SCHOFIELD

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	. . . . .	I. F. MACKENZIE, M.D.(EDIN.), D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., (resigned 31.10.56)
Acting Medical Officer of Health	. . .	Ditto (from 1.11.56)
Public Health Inspector	. . .	A. S. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat and other Foods
Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health	. . .	C. A. PREECE
Clerk to the Public Health Inspector	. . .	Mrs. E. M. BRADLEY

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Leominster Borough Council.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1956, which has, as usual, been prepared jointly by the Public Health Inspector and myself.

The health of the community remained good and there were no serious outbreaks of notifiable diseases. Twelve cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during the second half of the year. They arose sporadically, and did not constitute an outbreak. All were mild in character and only one child was removed to an Isolation Hospital. As I have said before the severity of this disease throughout the country appears to have diminished, and effective treatment, for example, by penicillin, is readily available with the result that uncomplicated cases can be treated at home. In order to limit the opportunities for persons who have been in contact with these cases to spread the disease, those engaged in food trades were temporarily excluded from work. Three cases of Food Poisoning were notified from one household. No organisms likely to be the cause of the illness were isolated from specimens and the persons affected recovered rapidly without the source being traced.

In connection with the implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, the majority of owners and employees of food premises co-operated with us to ensure that the regulations were complied with. In only one case was it necessary to take legal proceedings. Further reference is made to this case in the text. The Health Committee gave close consideration to the question of instituting legal proceedings in another case in which a foreign body of a particularly objectionable character was found in a cake. It was decided to issue a warning to the baker concerned to the effect that all practicable steps must be taken to ensure that there is no possibility of a recurrence.

With a view to discharging our obligation under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, to demolish 120 unfit houses during the ensuing five years period and to rehouse the occupants, the declaration of nine clearance areas, involving 55 houses, was proceeded with by the Council. This constitutes a substantial step in view of the special difficulties we face through lack of a sewage disposal works.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, provides us with an opportunity to take action to curtail the discharge of smoke from domestic and other premises in the Borough. Though we are quite a small country town, observation from any high point around, will, quite frequently, reveal the presence of a pall of smoke hanging over us. This smoke is largely domestic in origin, and it is deleterious to health. Even though it is unlikely that an application by us, at this time, for the declaration of a Smoke Control Area, will be welcomed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in view of the much greater needs of other residential or semi-residential towns throughout the country, and of the prevailing shortage of smokeless fuels, we have made a start in the direction of ensuring cleaner air by adopting a building byelaw which makes it obligatory for fireplaces capable of burning smokeless fuels or of smokeless operation to be provided in all new houses in future.

A noteworthy event of 1956 was the passing of the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act which provides that Sanitary Inspectors shall in future be called Public Health Inspectors. Even a cursory study of the history of public health in Britain will reveal to the student the key position occupied by the Sanitary Inspector from earliest days. That he should have been called Sanitary Inspector is a tribute to him as an individual, to his profession, and also to the good sense and the knowledge of the classics of our forbears, who thought it appropriate to give him a designation derived from the Latin, *sanitas*—pertaining to and concerned with the preservation of health. It may be a reflection on the lowly place now occupied by the classics in school curricula that “sanitary” is, in the minds of many people, more closely associated with drains than with “health”; hence the decision of the House of Commons to give the Sanitary Inspector a new title.

The significant increase in the numbers of death from cancer of the lungs (six in the year under review, four in 1955 and three in 1954) is in keeping with the higher incidence throughout the country as a whole. Much publicity has been given to the evidence, accruing largely from statistical research, that there is a causal relationship in many cases between tobacco smoking and malignant disease of the lungs and bronchial tubes. In view of this, special responsibility rests on all who use cigarettes not only to protect their own lungs from the carcinogenic action of tobacco smoke, but also to refrain from polluting the air in rooms and halls that is likely to be breathed by persons who do not smoke, and whom those who smoke are subjecting unnecessarily to a risk of premature death—a risk, which, though less than that run by smokers, is, nevertheless, believed to be real.

The appointment of Dr. O. L. Evans as District Medical Officer of Health for the Northern Districts and as Assistant County Medical Officer, was made on December 5th, 1956. It was arranged that he would commence duty on March 1st, 1957, on which date my temporary appointment as Acting Medical Officer of Health. will terminate.

In view of my recent change of appointment this will be the last annual report that I shall present to you as your Medical Officer of Health. I shall retain very warm memories of my years of service in Leominster and of the happy relations that exist among officers and between members of the council and staff,—a spirit of harmony that contributes much to the effectiveness of work in the local government service.

I. F. MACKENZIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Office,
4, Church Street,
Leominster.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	....	....	....	....	....	8,728
Population	....	....	....	....	....	6,160
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1956) according to the Rate Books	....	....	....	....	....	1,916
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	£74,955
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	....	....	....	....	....	£280

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

		Total	Male	Female
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate)	....	98	49	49
(Illegitimate)	....	1	—	1
	Total	99		
STILL BIRTHS	....	Nil		
DEATHS	....	101	46	55
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES		Nil		
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE (Legitimate)	....	3	2	1

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1956

Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population)	....	16.1
Birth Rate for England and Wales	....	15.7
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)	....	Nil
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales	....	23.0
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population)	....	16.4
Death Rate for England and Wales	....	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related live births)	....	30.3
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	....	23.8

WATER

PIPED SUPPLIES (Public Water Mains)

Chlorination of piped water was continued throughout the year. At the Waterworks Pumping Station a modern type chlorination plant is in operation.

- (1) The piped water supply of the area and of its several parts has in general been satisfactory both in quality and in quantity.
- (2) **Bacteriological Examinations**
 - (a) RAW WATER BEFORE TREATMENT—four samples taken, two of which were free of organisms of faecal origin.
 - (b) WATER AFTER CHLORINATION—45 samples taken 40 of which were free from organisms of faecal origin.
- (3) No plumbo-solvent action—hard water.
- (4) ACTION IN RESPECT OF ANY FORM OF CONTAMINATION—immediate resampling.

(5) Number of dwelling-houses and population supplied from Public Water Mains :

(a) Direct to houses	....	....	1,739 houses
Approximate population	....	....	5,600
(b) By means of standpipes	....	....	21 houses
Approximate population	....	....	70

Of approximately 376 occupied houses in the Out-Parish, about 226 houses are supplied with piped chlorinated water.

SHALLOW WELLS or SPRING WATER SUPPLIES

The approximate number of houses relying on spring or well water is as follows :

Out-parish	....	....	150
Approximate population	....	....	460

REMARKS

The following Out-parish areas are not provided with piped supplies :

Brierley, Elms Green, Stagsbatch, Aulden and Wintercott, Stretford and Hennor, Wharton and Marlbrook.

WATER SAMPLES TAKEN AND SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS

(a) Piped supplies (House taps, Waterworks Well, Mid-summer Meadow Well and Western Supply Well)	49
(b) Wells, boreholes and springs	18
(c) Open air Swimming Bath (all samples satisfactory)	28

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

House drains and other buildings (old premises)

Smoke, colour and water tests	....	....	8
New drains laid	....	....	9
Cleansed, trapped or ventilated	....	....	50
Inspection chambers built	....	....	8
Septic tanks built or cleansed	....	....	6
Sinks installed	....	....	9
Additional closets, renewals or conversions	....	....	14
Baths and hot water installed	....	....	12
Wash hand basins installed	....	....	10

BOROUGH PROPER—Drainage of old premises is in the main poor, consisting usually of unjointed pipes, devoid of inspection chambers or ventilation shafts.

No Borough sewage works exists and sewage disposal is to an open ditch. It is hoped that our new sewage works, plans for which have already been approved by the Ministry, will be constructed during the coming year or two.

OUT-PARISH—New houses are drained to septic tanks.

Approximate number of occupied houses drained to sewer :

Borough Proper	....	....	....	1,509
Out-parish	....	....	....	84

Number of houses not drained to sewer :

Borough Proper	....	....	....	25
Out-parish	....	....	....	292

TENTS AND CARAVANS

Camping does not exist on a large scale. No sites registered.

Caravans removed	....	....	3
Visits	....	....	6

REFUSE COLLECTION, REMOVAL, DISPOSAL AND TREATMENT

(1) Collection—Borough Proper	....	Vehicular collection once per week
Out-parish	....	Vehicular collection weekly or fortnightly according to locality
Dustbins renewed	....	53
(2) Disposal of refuse	....	Tipping
(3) Treatments against rodents	....	Periodical baiting and poisoning

DISINFECTIONS AND DISINFESTATIONS

Premises fumigated or disinfected	....	4
Mode of operation	....	Fumigators and liquid spraying

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The sewer received one treatment at certain manholes. Little evidence of rat infestation was found in the sewers. The Public Abattoir, Sewage Ditch and Refuse Tip received periodic treatments.

Sewers :

Number of manholes treated	....	8
Number of treatments	....	1

Dwelling-Houses, Farms, Business Premises and Local Authority Premises :

Number treated against rats	....	....	62
Number treated against mice	....	....	2
Number of re-treatments	....	....	14

FACTORY ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Number on Register (excluding Building Sites)	85
Number of Inspections	61
Number of written notices served	7

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness	6	4
Sanitary Conveniences (unsuitable, defective or insufficient)	5	3
Miscellaneous	4	-

HOUSING

The Total Problem (at 11th August, 1955—Estimated),

- | | | | | | |
|------|--|------|------|------|-------------|
| (i) | Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 | .... | .... | .... | 340 |
| (ii) | Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i) | .... | .... | .... | 10/15 years |

Orders already made, etc.

- | | | | | | |
|-------|---|------|------|------|----|
| (iii) | Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the Local Authority | | | | 80 |
|-------|---|------|------|------|----|

Action in the first five years

- | | | | | | |
|-------|---|------|------|------|-----|
| (iv) | Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a Clearance Order or a Compulsory Purchase Order submitted to the Minister | .... | .... | .... | 140 |
| (v) | Number of houses (iii) and (v) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under Section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation | .... | .... | .... | 10 |
| (vi) | Number of houses under (iii) and (iv) to be demolished in the five years | .... | .... | .... | 120 |
| (vii) | Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 | .... | .... | .... | 5 |

Action taken against (iii) above (Operative Clearance Orders)

Houses Demolished	Number demolished	Year demolished	
53, Bridge Street	1	1955	
123 „ „	1	1956	
125 „ „	1	1956	
1, Sydney Gardens	1	1956	
2 „ „	1	1956	
	<hr/>		
Total houses	.... 5		
	<hr/>		
Number of houses under Operative Clearance Orders void at 31st December, 1956	....	....	18

Action taken against (vii) above (Operative Demolition Orders)

Houses Demolished	Number demolished	Year demolished
1, Wharton Lane		
2, Wharton Lane	2	1956
	—	
Total houses	.... 2	
	—	

Action taken against (iv) above

CLEARANCE AREAS—during the year nine areas involving 55 houses were declared as **CLEARANCE AREAS**, but at the end of the year the Orders relating to the Areas had not been resolved.

Observations

The curtailment during the year of new council house development on the Westfield Estate also postponed the delicate rental problem relating to the re-housing of the inhabitants of houses situate in Clearance Areas covered by Operative Clearance Orders made 17/18 years ago.

For a small local authority such as Leominster with

- (a) an ageing population,
- (b) low income groups,
- (c) inadequacy of industry to absorb working population,
- (d) low-rented sub-standard houses,

and with (e) hundreds of unfit houses suitable only for demolition and replacement,

the problem associated with re-housing from unsanitary conditions to Council houses is a major one justifying substantial Government aid if progress is to be speedy and effective.

In view of the Government's aim to secure speedy clearance of slums, and to control slums, a less cumbersome inter-departmental procedure should be evolved than exists at present. Such procedure whilst not being mandatory could, for wider uniformity, be less optional at local level.

The first stage "Declaration of Clearance Area" might well be merged into the Clearance or Compulsory Purchase order stage, and be covered by one resolution instead of two resolutions, thus avoiding possible negation at the second stage.

Certain special maps, certified statements of occupants, preliminary publicity, each involving different departments, might well be shelved in the interests of rapid progress.

On the other hand copies of all Official Representations to local authorities, including unaccepted representations, should reach ministerial level together with the decisions thereon.

HOUSING STATISTICS

- (1) The number of applications for Council houses grows annually. The total applications for new Council houses at 31st December, 1955 was 333. At the 31st December, 1956, the applications totalled 381, an increase of 48 which is substantially more than the annual building rate.
- (2) The number of houses situate in Clearance Areas covered by operative Clearance Orders confirmed prior to 1940 and still standing, is 75 of which 57 are occupied. This figure shows a steady fall. At 31st December in the previous year, the number of houses occupied was 69.
- (3) Tenants rehoused during the year from Clearance Areas covered by operative Clearance Orders prior to 1940 4
- (4) Total number of Clearance Area houses demolished :

Pre-war, 1939	....	60	
Post-war	....	45	105
- (5) Individual unfit houses demolished voluntarily and under Section 11 of Housing Act, 1936 :

Pre-war, 1939	....	14	
Post-war	....	19	33
- (6) Number of individual unfit houses subject to Demolition Orders occupied at 31st December, 1956 4
- (7) Number of houses and flats on which Improvement Grants authorised 7
- (8) Houses improved with Grants 8

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING YEAR

- (a) Total 38
- (b) With State Assistance under Housing Acts :
 - (1) By Local Authority 19
 - (2) By other bodies or persons —
- (c) Without State Assistance :
 - (1) By other bodies or persons 19
 - (a) Borough 2
 - (b) Out-parish 17

WESTFIELD ESTATE—NEWLANDS ROAD (Private Enterprise Section)

Six houses completed and occupied during the year.

WESTFIELD ESTATE (Council Houses)

The Westfield Estate has a total of 137 inhabited post-war Council houses, all of traditional type. Houses completed and occupied during the year—19. Further development is proceeding with traditional type houses.

STATISTICS RELATING TO COUNCIL HOUSES AND FLATS BOROUGH AND OUT-PARISH

		Built Pre 1939	Built Post-war 1947-56	Old houses acquired	Total
Caswell Estate					
Caswell Terrace	....	8	—	—	8
„ Crescent	....	28	—	—	28
„ Road	....	54	—	—	54
Worcester Road	....	8	—	—	8
Gateway Lane					98
Croft Street	....	43	4	—	47
Churchill Avenue	....	—	42	—	42
George Street	....	—	2	—	2
Mortimer Street	....	39	—	—	39
„ Close	....	—	12	—	12
„ Place	....	2	—	—	2
Holland Road	....	6	20†	—	26
Wigmore Street	....	10	16‡	—	26
George Street	....	—	24*	—	24
Westfield Estate					220
Westfield Walk	....	—	9	—	9
West Croft	....	—	22	—	22
Sandpits	....	—	62	—	62
Pump Piece	....	—	43	—	43
Newlands Road	....	—	1	—	1
Individual Areas					137
Cranes Lane	....	6	—	—	6
Rainbow Street	....	6	—	—	6
Out-Parish Estates					12
Hengrave Green, Ivington	....	—	12‡	—	12
Properties Acquired					12
Bargates	....	—	—	3	3
Dishley Street	....	—	—	1	1
Etnam Street	....	—	—	7	7
West Croft	....	—	—	1	1
Library House	....	—	—	1	1
Grange Court	....	—	—	1	1—14
		210	269	14	493

† Temporary prefabricated bungalows (10 year type)

‡ Permanent prefabricated houses (Airey type)

* Permanent prefabricated houses (Cornish Units)

SUMMARY

Types and numbers of Council houses :

Permanent Prefabricated—Airey type	....	....	28
Permanent Prefabricated—Cornish Unit	....	....	24
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows (10 year type)	....	....	20
Traditional—Brick Houses—395			
Traditional—Brick Flats — 12	....	....	407
Old houses acquired	....	....	14
Total	....	....	493

INSPECTION and SUPERVISION OF FOOD

NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES

Type of Premises	Number of Premises
(a) GROCERS (including sale of fruit, fish, game, vegetables and pre-packed ice-cream)	36
(b) SWEETS and SUGAR CONFECTIONERY (including sale of pre-packed ice-cream)	10
(c) RESTAURANTS and CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS (including fish and chip fryers, sale of pre-packed ice-cream)	11
(d) LICENSED PREMISES (Hotels, Inns and Clubs)	31
(e) BAKERS and CONFECTIONERS	8
(f) BUTCHERS	8
(g) SCHOOL CANTEENS	3
(h) CORN STORES and SHOPS	8
(i) MOBILE CANTEEN (stall)	1
(j) POULTERERS (including egg packers)	5
Total	121

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES, by TYPE, REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 of the FOOD and DRUGS ACT, 1955

(k) SALE OF PRE-PACKED ICE CREAM

Grocers	....	....	8
Restaurants and Catering Establishments	....	....	7
Sweets and Sugar Confectionery (including Kiosk)	....	....	7
Confectioners	....	....	1
Inns (Off-licence)	....	....	1
Total	....	....	24
Number of inspections	....	....	18
Number of samples of ice cream sent for analysis			17

(1) PREPARATION OR MANUFACTURE OF SAUSAGES
POTTED, PRESSED, PICKLED OR PRESERVED
FOOD

Butchers	....	....	....	....	....	5
Bakers and Confectioners			....	....	....	3
Fish Fryers		....	....	....	....	2
						—
Total				....	....	10
						—
Number of inspections	....		....		20	

ICE CREAM

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in operation in the district. All retail premises have electric continuous freezers and retail pre-packed ice cream only.

SAMPLING

Sampling for bacteriological analysis is carried out from time to time.

Number of samples falling into Grade 1 (satisfactory)	....	15
Number of samples falling into Grade 2 (satisfactory)	....	2
		—
Total samples taken	....	17
		—

FOOD PREMISES—Inspection, Supervision and Comment

There are no food factories in the area other than retail shops, bake-houses, restaurants and hotel kitchens.

Routine inspections are carried out from time to time under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 and byelaws made under the Food and Drugs Act. Contraventions are followed up by communications and reports to the appropriate Committee when found necessary.

Warnings issued from Committee	....	1 (Foreign body in cake)
Informal warnings	....	.... 1 (Mould in meat pie)

In place of the initial registration of certain types of premises carrying little value from the point of view of public health, an annual licensing system and inspections covering all food premises would tend towards improved standards of hygiene and equipment.

MILK SUPPLY

- (1) Routine inspection of dairies.
- (2) Collection of samples of designated and non-designated milk for analysis
 - (a) Examination for bacterial cleanliness and heat treatment.
 - (b) Examination for Tubercle Bacilli, etc.
- (3) The major portion of milk supplies retailed in the district is designated milk and mainly pasteurised.

NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN

Sterilised milk	....	....	....	1
Tuberculin Tested milk	....	....	....	2
Pasteurised milk	....	....	....	18
Ordinary milk (Biological)	....	....	....	6

All samples of designated milk taken during the year conformed to standards laid down. Biological tests on samples of undesignated milk were also satisfactory.

Bottle washing plant is used in one premise only. One pasteuriser's licence was refused by the County Council during the year and pasteurisation operations ceased at the premises concerned.

Number of dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 (excluding farm dairies)	....	1
Number of inspections (including farm dairies and milk shops)	....	38
Warnings issued in regard to crates containing bottles of milk left on public highway (Regulation 30, Milk and Dairies Regulations)	....	1
Notices to provide washing facilities repair etc. (Regulation 22(2), Milk and Dairies Regulations)	....	2

REFERENCE TO FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955-6

Procedure during the year

- (1) Circular letters drawing attention to the provisions of the Regulation sent to all food premises.
- (2) Printed abstract of the provisions of the Regulations sent to all food premises.
- (3) Follow up visits by Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector.
- (4) Informal notices served for all premises falling below prescribed standards.
- (5) Warning letters in default.
- (6) Legal proceedings in one case.

Proprietor of a catering establishment proceeded against under Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 and Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Fines imposed by magistrates of £10 each on the following three offences :

- (1) That he carried on a food business in or at unsanitary premises.
- (2) That there were not suitable and sufficient wash hand basins provided and maintained in a position conveniently accessible to persons engaged in the handling of food on or about the premises.
- (3) That the food room walls, floors, ceiling, and windows were not kept clean and in such good order, repair and condition as to enable them to be effectively cleaned.

No certificates of exemption granted under Section 31 of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Number of circular letters despatched	....	....	71
Number of informal notices served	....	....	34

WORKS DONE

Unsatisfactory sanitary conveniences altered, repaired, cleansed or redecorated	....	....	....	6
Unsanitary food rooms discovered	....	....	....	10
Unsanitary food premises discovered	....	....	....	1
Food rooms repaired, altered or redecorated	....	....	....	14
Sinks installed or renewed	....	....	....	3
Wash basins installed	....	....	....	13
Constant hot water installed	....	....	....	11
Overalls and head coverings provided for employees	....	....	....	4
Refuse removed from food premises	....	....	....	3
Non-absorbent table tops provided	....	....	....	3
Glass stands provided	....	....	....	2
First aid outfits provided	....	....	....	5
Refrigerators installed	....	....	....	7
Clothes cupboard provided	....	....	....	3
Food cupboard provided	....	....	....	1

MAY FAIR

Mobile vehicles with equipment examined	....	....	....	2
Mobile stalls	....	....	....	3
Abstracts provided	....	....	....	4
Warnings issued	....	....	....	1

METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

- (1) Condemned meat and other material from abattoir—after green staining—collection by private buyer.
- (2) Other foods—incineration or buried.

The undernoted foods were surrendered during the year :

17 tins Canned Meats ; 5½ lb. Canned Meats ; 175 tins Fruit ; 12 lb. Fruit ; 38 tins Vegetables ; 2 jars Vegetables ; 7 tins Fish ; 105 lb. Fish ; 26 tins Milk ; 13 lb. Ham ; 4 lb. Cheese ; 130 lb. Sausages ; 12 pairs Sausages ; 127 lb. Bacon ; 1 tin Cream ; 138 lb. Imported Beef ; 17 lb. English Beef ; 2 tins Soup ; 13 Cucumbers ; 2 Pies.

MEAT

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough of Leominster. Throughout the year slaughtering arrangements at the Council's abattoir have been conducted by the Leominster Butchers Abattoir Co. The major amount is for areas outside the Borough of Leominster. Very few cows were slaughtered during the year.

CARCASES and OFFAL INSPECTED and CONDEMNED
IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1544	9	241	6376	2563
Number inspected	1512	9	233	6227	2513
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	2	8	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	203	1	1	66	27
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	13.1%	11.1%	1.2%	1.1%	1.3%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—	23
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ....	.45%	—	—	—	.9%
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with cysticercosis ....	.2%	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Approximate weight of diseased meat dealt with	2701 lb.	5 lb.	60 lb.	501 lb.	1050 lb.
	TOTAL 4,317 lb.				

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

(Note : Communicable to man. The adult stage is a tapeworm, *Taenia saginata* which is found only in man.)

Animals found to be infested with *Cysticercus Bovis*

		Bullock (1)	Bullock (2)	Bullock (3)
Age of Animal	....	3 years	1½ years	2 years
Date slaughtered	....	23/1/56	19/3/56	5/12/56
Date examined by Meat Inspector	.... ....	23/1/56	19/3/56	5/12/56
Type of infestation	....	Viable cyst	Viable cyst	Degenerated cyst
Site of infestation	....	Head. External masseter muscle	Head. External masseter muscle	Head. External masseter muscle
Localised or generalised	....	Localised (head)	Localised (head)	Localised (head)
Action taken	....	Carcase to cold storage. Organs rejected	Carcase to cold storage. Organs rejected	Organ rejected

ABATTOIR—built in 1877

FEATURES PERTAINING TO PREMISES :

- (1) Layout and general facilities sub-standard.
- (2) Fabric in state of disrepair and unwholesomeness.
- (3) Absence of hanging room or cooling room for reception of dressed carcasses.
- (4) Absence of overhead runways for transfer of dressed carcasses to clean conditions.

FEATURES ARISING FROM ABOVE :

- (a) Dressed carcasses subject to contamination in that dressed carcasses hang in sections wherein live animals are pulled in, stunned, bled, gutted and dressed or scalded.
- (b) Dressed carcasses to be examined by Meat Inspector under circumstances not free from flowing blood and filth, interference, splashing, or danger from slaughtering or dressing processes.

METHOD OF MEAT INSPECTION

In accordance with the Ministry of Food, Memo 3/Meat, inasfar as is reasonably practicable.

ANTE-MORTEM and POST-MORTEM INSPECTIONS

Inspection of all carcasses is carried out several times daily. Ante-mortem inspections before slaughter or post-mortem at the time of slaughter cannot on every occasion be carried out owing to other duties of inspector.

TRANSPORT and CARRYING OF MEAT

- (1) Vehicles to standard provided, and in the main new vehicles.
- (2) Warnings issued in regard to lack of provision of washable overalls and head coverings—3.

AGRICULTURE (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) ACT, 1956

Circular letters despatched to occupiers of all farm premises.

SANITARY INSPECTION

TABLES SHOWING INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR

Inspections under					Number
Housing (1936) Act	....	....	....	....	149
Housing (Public Health Acts)	....	....	....	....	99
Accommodation of Housing Applicants (Rooms, etc.)					18
Factories	....	....	....	....	61
Milk (Dairies, Schools, Shops, Vehicles)	....				50
Food Premises, Kitchens, Vehicles and Licensed Premises	....	....	....	....	253
Abattoir	....	....	....	....	936
Drains (Smoke, Colour and Water Tests)					8
Drains Inspected and Cleansed	....				50
Infectious Diseases and Disinfections					14
Rodent Control	....	....	....	....	241
Ice Cream Premises	....	....	....	....	18
Miscellaneous Visits (P.H. Act)					44
Pet Animals Act	....	....	....	....	1
Tents and Caravans					6
Dirty and Verminous Premises	....				8
Water (Wells, Springs and Main)					95

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

ANALYSES OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES ACCORDING TO AGE

Disease	Age of Patient								Total
	0-1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Un-known	
Scarlet Fever	—	1	3	6	2	—	—	—	12
Whooping Cough	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	4
Measles	—	2	3	7	1	—	—	—	13
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	7
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3

TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of 1956 the Tuberculosis Register contained the names of thirty-seven males and thirty-one females who normally reside in the district.

During the year seven Pulmonary cases were notified, and four Pulmonary cases moved into the district.

During the same period two persons recovered, seven left the district, and one died.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946, Section 26

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Numbers of children in the district who were treated during the year :

Purpose of Injection	Age at date of immunisation or vaccination							Reinforcing Injections
	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15 and over	Total	
Immunisation against Diphtheria	27	15	3	22	3	—	70	124
Immunisation against Whooping Cough	25	13	2	—	—	—	40	—
Vaccination against Smallpox	35	2	3	3	—	5	48	9

Vaccination and Immunisation are a County Council responsibility and the figures given above have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease	Males	Females	TOTAL
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	1	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	7	9
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	10	16
Coronary disease, angina	9	4	13
Hypertension with heart disease	—	2	2
Other heart disease	6	12	18
Other circulatory disease	2	1	3
Pneumonia	1	—	1
Bronchitis	3	4	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	8	10
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
All other accidents	—	2	2
Suicide	1	—	1
All causes	46	55	101

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